

Application No.: 10/712589

Case No.: 59391US002

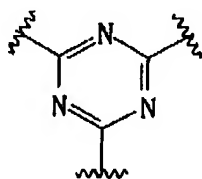
REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending. Claims 22-24 and 26-28 are amended herein so as to correctly assert claim dependency.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11-16, 19-22, 24-26, and 28 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over JP 2001-354641 (Okada) in view of JP 2002-003466 (Watakabe) and JP 54-052690 (Asawa).

In order to establish a prima facie case of obviousness of a claim, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974); *In re Wilson*, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970) ("All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art.") (cited at MPEP § 2143.03). In the present case, Applicants submit that no prima facie case of obviousness has been established because the cited reference fails to teach or suggest claim limitations required in the rejected claims. In this case, The cited references fail to disclose a polymer compound comprising both a perfluorinated backbone and crosslinks comprising trivalent groups according to the formula:



(I).

As the Office Action notes, while Okada purports to disclose compounds containing fluorosulfonyl groups and cyano groups, and the formation of triazine bridge formations therefrom, "Okada does not expressly teach [] making a polymer from said compound having sulfonic acid groups." (Office Action at page 2). Likewise, while Watakabe also purports to disclose compounds containing fluorosulfonyl groups and cyano groups, and the formation of triazine crosslinks therefrom, Watakabe also fails to teach making a polymer from that compound. Likewise, Asawa fails to teach a polymer compound comprising both a perfluorinated backbone and crosslinks comprising trivalent groups according to formula I.

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In summary, the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11-16, 19-22, 24-26, and 28 under 35 USC § 103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over Okada in view of Watakabe and Asawa has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 9, 10, 17, 18, 23, and 27 are acknowledged to contain allowable subject matter.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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